

The Times-Dispatch

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THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1913.

LAWYERS WHO LEAD US.

Virginia is going to have tax reform. Virginia wants the wisest and most courageous leadership in tax reform. The whole State must feel grateful to the members of the Bar Association, who, as far as in their power, will offer their combined services at the annual meeting in July to face the problem of our present vicious taxing system, and to recommend a more equitable and efficient arrangement of revenue legislation. There will be one address by Richard Evelyn Byrd, outlining the questions at issue, and three days of discussion of the present situation and the proper remedial measures. The Bar Association is departing from a tradition in limiting its considerations to one aspect of public affairs, but it is following an ancient and noble tradition of service that for centuries has inspired the legal profession.

The Times-Dispatch is profoundly moved by this evidence of quickened leadership and responsibility assumed. It hopes that this is a sign of more than a revision of unjust tax laws. It believes that it symbolizes a realization of the need in Virginia for active, earnest labor to place the fame of the Commonwealth once more high upon the head-rolls of the States. This paper has spoken in blunt terms of the failure to live up to our own history. It has lamented that we have no great leaders, and that our gifts to the rest of the nation have been small for many years. It has deplored small politics, personal aggrandizement, the stifling of opportunity and the lack of progress on principle. It has urged the participation of big men in big affairs. It now rejoices that the ability, learning and character of the Virginia bench and bar is to be directed at solving one of the fundamental problems of our future growth and prosperity.

We congratulate Mr. Byrd upon a great opportunity. He is faced with a splendid test. He can make history. His theme will have none of the spectacular glories of war, or the thrilling principles of abstract statesmanship, but it will deal with the very life of the State, and the peace and contentment and welfare of her people. He can do for justice and financial stability what it is rarely given one man to do. His knowledge of revenue conditions gained while Speaker of the House and as a member of the Tax Commission should enable him to present clearly and with authority the needs of Virginia in tax reform. We sincerely trust he will rise to the situation.

Virginia is waiting for leaders. Her traditions, her people and her wealth call for lofty and unselfish service. It is the devout wish of The Times-Dispatch that out of this direct attack upon the simple ancient question of how the people shall raise money for their common expenditures will come a larger vision and a nobler spirit of patriotism.

EXAMPLE.

The American public, which has repeatedly been told by its leaders over the dazedly of Mr. Lincoln Beachey, a pioneer in the sport of aviation in the United States, cannot well withhold its applause for his abandoning the same "because I have been a bad influence, and the death of a number of young aviators in this country can be traced, I believe, to a desire to emulate me in my fooling, daring exploits in the air."

It requires a wonderful power of self-analysis to thus compute one's personal equation in the sphere of crime in which he moves, but Beachey, who, to use his own words, "sighed death at every opportunity in the last two years" and who seemed to have no ambition or thought in the world other than to achieve hazardous attitudes, describe suicidal areas high in the air, and win the plaudits of multitudes, has shown that there has always been a nobler side to his nature which spectators at aviation might possibly never dreamed he possessed.

Beachey's retirement from the hazardous game of professional flying, aviators receiving from \$2,500 to \$5,000 a flight, holds a lesson which no one can afford to disregard. Believing that he was to blame for the recklessness of other aviators who felt compelled to measure up to the standards set by him of disregard of life while plotting airships, he retired that the bad example might be removed, and that his own conscience would be clear in the event of further fatalities in the sport. In other words, Beachey, "one clown of the air," believed himself to be his brother's keeper, and resolved to discontinue doing that which might lead his fellows into injury or death.

What the world needs in a few more men like Lincoln Beachey; men who realize that they are not detached or abstract figures, and personalities in the world answerable to no one for their conduct so long as their deportment is within the law. How many men think or care about the example they are setting? How many realize that their thoughts, habits or actions have any relation to the lives of others? How many accuse themselves when men who have followed in their footsteps fall into evil paths?

with his life and "got away with them." He has not been injured by his foolhardiness, but no one knows any better than he that this was mere luck. And so it is in the daily life of every man. One may indulge himself in various ways, keeping his self-control absolute all the while, yet another may emulate him and come to grief, shame and degradation. In a broad, cosmic sense the man who trifles with dangers, but escapes harm, is perhaps to be congratulated on his luck, but he is none the less culpable for the error into which his bad example has lead his fellow.

ANNEXATION DATA.

Annexation for the benefit of Richmond and the suburbs was presented in admirably concrete and practical form by the speakers at the first table talk of the Business Men's Club. Larger city area was urged for two main reasons: First, because it will be to the financial advantage of Richmond; and, second, it will mean better living conditions for her entire population—white and black. We desire to repeat some of the main arguments, with some figures that talked at the luncheon.

We must expand because we have so much less area than other cities of the same class, in proportion to our population and importance.

We are thirty-fifth in the list of cities in this respect. Between 1899 and 1909, when we fell from the rank of thirty-fifth to that of forty-sixth, we increased in population only 3,500. This lack of normal growth in numbers was due to lack of growth in actual area.

In comparison with other similar cities, Richmond is land starved. If we may coin a term, we cover only eleven square miles. Atlanta covers twenty-six.

Our limited area increases rents for people of moderate means until the proper housing of this large and productive mass of population has become a grave problem. Industry that employs labor of the better class is handicapped because the rents charged are so high that salaries must be raised beyond the limits of wise business laws.

The incorporated suburbs are going ahead with needed improvements and issuing bonds that must some day be assumed by the city of Richmond. These smaller communities are paying interest of 6 per cent, while the city could obtain money at slightly more than 4 per cent. This is poor economy.

Although we have not grown legally, we have grown naturally, and many additions and improvements are being built around us without being adjusted to the future needs of the city. We are being hemmed in by much sporadic and petty construction that does not fit into our municipal scheme, and which will be useless when we do absorb the outer territory.

Concession in living conditions due to scanty land area is productive of ill-health and lower morals. Sanitation and efficient engineering demand that Richmond control the twilight zones.

The citizens of this surrounding territory expect just and speedy action. What reasons are there against annexation?

THE COURT OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS.

Common sense and sympathy cause the movement in Baltimore to establish there a Court of Domestic Relations. Since juvenile courts have been established in those cities, and have done such excellent work, the wonder is that boys were once put into cells with habitual criminals.

Probation and improvement are as applicable to cases involving husband and wife as to those having to do with infractions of law by minors. In Chicago, almost 2,000 cases have been settled since a Court of Domestic Relations was established, without appearing judicially before it. The intervention of the judge was used in a kindly, practical manner. Normally, the Governor appoints a judge of the Court of Domestic Relations, with two probation officers. Jurisdiction would cover such offenses as desertion of wife and minor children, non-support and the cases of aged parents who are likely to become public charges.

POLAND LOOKING TO AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The marriage of another Polish prince with an Austrian archduchess is giving the officially inspired Russian press serious concern, and prompting it to utter grave warnings against Austria-Hungarian intrigues with the Poles. This is the second of such alliances that have taken place recently, and what renders them all the more significant in the eyes of the Russian government is that in both instances the prince does not live on the Austrian side of the frontier. These "vast estates" lie in Russian Poland, and embrace "large sections" of the provinces in which they are located.

The St. Petersburg Novoye Vremya, in announcing the last of the alliances, says if it were a single case of such a marriage, hardly any one would pay any attention to it. But, it continues, the Polish and the Austrian press in general speak of it "with good reason," as a political event. In justifying its suspicions and accentuating its note of alarm, the Novoye Vremya lays stress upon the fact that the educator of Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne, was a Polish patriot, and that the Archduke is known to have decided Polish leanings. Indeed, it does not hesitate to express the belief that the hopes of

the "Polish dreamers" are centring upon Francis Ferdinand.

Then, in summing up and crystallizing what it all portends, the Novoye Vremya says: "The annexation of the lands of the former Latin empire in the Balkans, as well as the Western Russian provinces, which were a part of the Polish kingdom, is the ultimate aim of Austro-Slavism. This gives a key to the understanding of the contemporary Austrian Imperialistic policy."

There would appear reason in this St. Petersburg contemporary's apprehension, and the echo of it which comes from several other "organs." For why should not the Polish patriots look to Austria-Hungary, and why should not Vienna intrigue with them?

For the realization of their dream of independence, or the re-creation of a Polish kingdom, which not a few European statesmen regard as essential to the future equilibrium, or even realization of autonomy under annexation, the Poles have nothing to expect from Russia. St. Petersburg has shamefully broken every covenant she has made with her Polish subjects, and, as has been truthfully charged, "has kept them under the most abominable yoke of servitude ever imposed by one nation upon another." Germany, in another but no less cruel way, has been persistently striving to grind out all spirit of nationality among the German Poles. Her efforts to Germanize them constitutes one of the darkest blot on German imperial policy—efforts directed practically to dispersing them as wanderers over the rest of the empire, and annihilation of home and individuality.

On the other hand, Austria-Hungary, as an article in the Literary Digest cites, "less barbarous, in her decree of 1866, made for her Polish subjects a place in her Constitution as in her social life—a large, free and honorable place." Since then Polish political influence at Vienna has been constantly expanding.

St. Petersburg may therefore well take these Austro-Polish "aristocratic matrimonial alliances" seriously, as portending much more than a "mere recurrence of the Polish dream." Especially so when it is recalled the reports for which it was proved there was good ground of a Polish movement of preparation to fall on Russia's back should the Balkan War bring about a clash at arms between Russia and Austria-Hungary.

NORFOLK IS NORFOLK.

The good city of Norfolk has suffered somewhat, according to the views of the Ledger-Dispatch, from a multiplicity of names, or, as that paper expresses it, from "four numerous and far-flung excursions in nomenclature," and in one way and another many things pertaining to the shipping and industrial affairs of Norfolk are blazoned before the world without any mention whatever of the name of Norfolk. Thus the largest Virginia seaport fails to get a great deal of free advertising that it might otherwise get and ought to have the advantage of.

For instance, the Norfolk terminal of the Southern Railway and the Atlantic Coast Line Railway is at Pinney's Point. The Norfolk terminal of the Norfolk and Western Railway is at Lambert's Point. The Norfolk terminal of the Virginian Railway is at Sewall's Point. Therefore these points, all of which are on Norfolk harbor, receive wide advertising through the dissemination of railway literature over land and sea, which advertising is useless to them and would be useful to Norfolk.

Then again when a vessel sails from a foreign port bound for Norfolk for orders or for coal or for anything else she is reported in the publications all over the world as bound for Hampton Roads. It is further claimed that Norfolk got little or no advertising out of the Jamestown Exposition, as everything that went out to the papers of the country in regard to that place bore a "Jamestown" date line, when really it was a Norfolk affair. However, Norfolk has but little to complain of in this respect, for that which did go out about the Jamestown doings was not especially valuable as advertising copy.

But the complaint of our esteemed contemporary is well founded, and what Norfolk wants to do is to "unmix" and consolidate its many "Points," in fact, as well as in law and on paper, and make them all Norfolk in reality.

Norfolk is to be congratulated on the recent consolidation of its numerous single harness and one galloves trade organizations into one strong and vigorous team to be known as the Chamber of Commerce, and now that this consolidation has been effected the first duty, it seems to us, that devolves upon the strong team is to bring about this other and greater consolidation. Surely the railroads and the steamship lines and the United States government can be brought into harmony and induced to act with the Chamber of Commerce in an effort to cut off so many "Points" and discontinue the "far-flung excursions in nomenclature."

The spiritualists have installed a wireless apparatus in one of their New York temples to catch messages from the other world. What we want to know is, how did the spirit of a wireless machine ever get to the other world so the messages could be sent?

We can't help thinking what Colonel Roosevelt would be adding to the easily of nations had he been inaugurated a while back.

They are saying that the suffragists are getting advertising by making the Washington policemen out as "roasts." Maybe that explains all the "butts" they used to defend themselves.

The nation is willing for the special session of Congress to meet any time in April, but it will stand for no April fool's jokes in revision downward.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

From the Hickeyville Clarion.
Hank Tumms says his grandmother has got good eyesight. I wonder what other kind of sight he would expect her to have.

The fellow who said that nothing was impossible in the world never tried to discourage a life insurance agent.

There was a proposition to put some stained glass windows in the new meeting house, but the congregation decided that as long as they were paying out good money they might as well get good glass that wasn't stained or otherwise damaged. Ald Man Hicks said perhaps a little soap and water or alcohol might take the stains off, but nobody listened to him.

Len Higgins, who is takin' art lessons down to the city, has wrote home that he was going to paint a picture in oil. Seems like the first puff of wind that came along would ruffle it all out of shape.

Grandpa Bibbins has quit waitin' for Bryan to be elected and now is waitin' for the price of beefsteak to come down. He must expect to live forever.

If every fellow's sanity was judged by the love letters he has written the insane asylums would have to turn 'em away and there wouldn't be nobody to act as keepers.

The main difference between vaudeville and the highest form of dramatic art is that there is more money in vaudeville.

Amariah Tilson, who is in the artificial limb business, says trade is looking up. He put on two new hands yesterday.

William Tibbitts has fired his clerk so that he can have an excuse to pull off a fire sale.

Ren Hicks says you can't always tell a mild cigar by the wrapper. No, by hunger, or a mild cigar, either.

Since hobble skirts went out of style Miss Amy Pringle has sewed up the bottom of her's and is usin' it for a laundry bag.

He Has Some Sense of Humor.

There is a certain cigar clerk in this village who has got a mighty developed sense of humor. We frisked into his place of business during the rush hour at noon yesterday and handed him a silver dollar with a plug in it that would fill a cavity in a chomcher's tooth. He said never a word but handed us a good nickel.

Since he had a sense of humor, clear, if you can imagine such a thing, and a handful of change. Then he hustled for the car.

The conductor came for his nickel and he hauled out the change that we had received in the cigar store. Needless to say, it was our all. It consisted of the following:

One Mexican half-dollar with a hole in it. It has been used for a watch chain.

One Canadian quarter (clogged).

Two horseless piano slugs.

Two beer checks, redeemable in a New Jersey saloon.

The cigar clerk had a sense of humor.

The Ideal.

There ain't nothin' kin learn, no other face so sweet like her's. Her neck is like the pretty swan. Her lips is like the cherries and her big gray eyes are simply grand.

To kiss your humble orbs upon. She's got a peck of golden hair and with a digger she is there. She weighs one hundred and eighty-five.

I tell you what, she just suits me. If you'd see her, you would agree. She is the sweetest gal alive.

The ample damsel of my choice has got a fine contralto voice. The first time that I heard her sing I could make my heart stay still. She sounded like a whip-poor-will.

Or else an ostrich on the wing. I tell you what, she won my heart. She got my goat right from the start.

For vocal music I admire. I don't know much about technique, but I kin tell when a voice squeaks. Of her I know I'd never tire.

I fell in love though you may scoff, and asked her for her very hand, right off.

She said it couldn't be arranged. I tell you what, it was a blow, a knockout piece of news to know. Since then my views of life has changed.

She said I was a dream to see, but she could never marry me. And then she heaved a sad, sweet sigh.

She said she must obey the laws and she could never turn me down because, she's married to another guy.

Prize Possibilities.

Railroad station agents. Undertakers. Almonde askers. Car Nicholas of Russia. Hardshell deacons. Automobile repairers. Baseball umpires. Mars Henry Watterson. The New York Sun. Residents of Pittsburgh.

Voice of the People

Dr. Hoge Favors Bible Reading.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir:—The statement in your paper that a strong protest against the reading of the Bible in the public schools was laid before the City School Board last night by the Baptist Ministers' Conference and others named, puts the Baptists in a false light. The writer was out of the city, and therefore was

Abe Martin

PUT THIS LABEL ON YOUR GOODS

THE MARKET PLACE

Telephone 6 MADISON 803 and ask CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Richmond OF THE SOUTH

Speak'n' of th' parcel post, some of th' eggs we're gittin' these days must come from th' torrid zone. Th' feller that kin pass a saloon an' a nickel the-ater bin is gonn' some.

OUR ANTEDILUVIAN ANCESTORS



What's the disturbance about? Well, you see, Professor Skinclotches has a young dinosaur he's made a pet of, and it's so affectionate that it wants to get up on his lap all the time!

not present when the resolutions were passed by the Baptist Ministers' Conference in the public schools, and so are many other Baptist ministers and hundreds of the Baptist people. If the majority of the Baptist ministers, over the protest of the minority, have a right to present resolutions against the reading of the Bible in the public schools, then the majority of the people of Richmond, over the protest of the minority, have the right to have read the Bible in the public schools.

For my part I cannot join hands with those who deny the deity of our Lord, to fight against His book that gives the knowledge of salvation through Jesus Christ. The Bible was once taken from the people, and the dark ages was the result. The word of God is the lamp unto the feet, and the light unto the path of the people, and if we take from them this great light they will soon stumble into darkness and bondage.

Let us keep it and walk in its light. B. LACY HOGE, Pastor Immanuel Baptist Church, March 8, 1913.

A Dangerous Practice.
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:—The indiscriminate habit or custom of physicians dictating prescriptions through the telephone to the druggist, is one that should be deprecated and discontinued as an act likely to be attended with uncertain and fearful consequences, as has been verified in the case of the recent death of a child who was given a chloride of mercury (poison), instead of mild chloride of mercury (calomel), as a result of a mistaken phonology or a similarity of telephonic sounds.

At best, "it is human to err," and it behooves the physician to place such safeguards around us as may insure protection and safety. We can readily discern the resemblance of sounds that may be transmitted to the wrong ears by means of the telephone, when such words as mild chloride and bichloride are used, especially when articulation is imperfect and hearing deficient. The druggist has his share of responsibility in the compounding of a prescription, and it does seem unfair that he should bear an additional one, that could be legitimately avoided. Whether or not the physician uses the word calomel, the words mild chloride of mercury in his message to the druggist, this is not the question so important for discussion as is the great danger of a confusion of similar sounds attending the pronunciation of a pure English or any other foreign word.

We wish to impress the liability of the mispronunciation of a word or words when it is transmitted through a telephone, whether they be of the Latin or German or any language or technically whatsoever.

Verboten of the subject which shall engage our attention, the writer desires to call to notice telephonic misunderstandings regarding the phonology of numerical sounds, such, for example, as the third or the fortieth. There we have a decided synonymy, consonance or similarity of sounds.

Life is too precious to be trifled with, and the prescriber cannot be too careful in his profession. It should not be a question of convenience of using the telephone when there is danger ahead. The writer has always contended that a physician should not, under any circumstances, dictate a prescription or order any drug through a telephone, and the druggist should not receive an order from anyone for medicine except orally, face to face, or upon a written order. It is unlawful in the old country, in Europe, to take the wording of a prescription through a telephone. Such a law should prevail in this country, a law that should in every sense of the word be most rigidly enforced for the protection of the general public. A very forcible demonstration of its need has urged us to agitate without delay the necessity of a statute that shall carry along with it a heavy penalty for its disobedience. We invite a further discussion of this very grave and important subject, and hope, through the medium of the press,

VIEWS OF THE VIRGINIA EDITORS

Coming to See Us.

We are the recipient of a neatly printed "pass" to all departments of the great plant of The Times-Dispatch, of Richmond. We know that the acceptance of this kind invitation would give real pleasure. To see this line of busy folk and modern machinery getting out the largest paper in our Southland would be a sight worth a trip to Richmond to witness. We hope some day to be able to use the "pass" and strike hands with members of the staff that we esteem as personal friends.

The Times-Dispatch is a life-long visitor in the homes of a host of people of Virginia; to be without it would make a decided change in the daily reading of thousands of people in this section of Virginia that would be anything but agreeable. The progress this great paper has made is indeed one of the great achievements of the New South.—Danville Methodist.

No, They Are Already on the Federal Bench.

We hope Governor Wilson will announce the names of his Cabinet in time for them to pack their carpet bags before going back to Washington.—Emporia Independent.

Are we to infer that the President will have carpet-baggers as members of his Cabinet?—Blackstone Courier.

One Enough.

The effort to pit two members of Congress from Virginia on the Ways and Means Committee in the House ought to fail. There is no demand for this and the State should be satisfied with only one.—Clifton Forge Review.

A Distinct Loss to the Public Service.

Had Joseph Stebbins will decline election for the Legislature this fall. In that event Halifax will lose the services of a representative it will sadly miss.

Six years of faithful service and experience made Mr. Stebbins a useful and honored member of the General Assembly, and the people of Halifax will regret to lose his splendid services.—South Boston News.

Look Out for the Squall.

A few estimable women, who have no employment or special interests at their homes, the Roanoke Times says of the leading advocates of woman suffrage in Virginia. The editor had better take to the mountains until the storm has spent its fury.—Farmville Herald.

Grammatical.

Does one say "a setting of eggs" or "a sitting of eggs"? What day of the week was August 29, 1892? V. Y.

"A setting" Wednesday.

Distance in Washington.

Please state the distance from the White House to the Capitol. W. Y.

From the Peace Monument to the grounds at Fifteenth Street is 6,450 feet.

Old Soldiers.

Did Congress ever pass a bill declaring that, other things being equal, ex-soldiers should be preferred for appointive offices? J. L. C.

No.

Queries & Answers

Detective Agency.

Does the Burns Detective Agency undertake divorce cases? X. Y.

No.

Out of Court.

Please tell me exactly what the phrase, "putting one's self out of court," would mean in logic.

W. A. D.

About what it would mean in law. It is an admission by which a former contention is utterly disproved. A perfect example is in the story of the Irish gentleman who boasted that he had once skated 100 miles between sunrise and sunset. Said a friend: "That must have been on the longest day in the year." Said the skater: "You are right; I picked that very day."

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